

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully submitted.

As noted in paragraph 0005 of the present application, an object of the invention is to provide a coupling between two tool parts, which coupling may transfer a large torque, and wherein the tool parts may assume one single position in relation to each other.

That object was achieved, e.g., in the preferred embodiment according to Figs. 1-5, in that the tool parts comprise a holder 1 (Fig. 1) and a cutting head 2 (Fig. 2) that can be interconnected in only one position relative to one another. That is, the respective interacting surfaces 3, 17 of the two parts are profiled so as to be intercoupled when the parts are brought together, and wherein those surfaces are configured to define only a single position of intercoupling.

In that regard, it will be appreciated that the head surface 17 has male members in the form of short tips 19 and a long ridge 20. The holder surface 3 has female members in the form of grooves 7A, 7B oriented perpendicularly to one another. Each of the head surface 17 and holder surface 3 defines an axially irregular profile since portions thereof extend axially to different extents. For example, on the surface 17 the tips 19 and ridge 20 extend axially to a different extent than the flat portion 17a of the surface 17. Likewise, on the holder surface 3, the grooves 7A, 7B extend axially to a different extent than the ridges defined between the grooves.

When coupling the male and female members together, the long ridge 20, which is oriented generally tangentially relative to the center hole 14, can only fit within one of the grooves 7A and, in particular, can fit in only one of those grooves

7A in order for the holes 5, 14 of the holder and the cutting head to be aligned. The ridge 20 cannot be received in one of the grooves 7B, because those grooves are not oriented generally tangentially to the center hole.

Thus, it will be appreciated that the cutting head 15 can only be oriented in the holder in the position shown in Fig. 5, and in no other position. Consequently, it is ensured that the cutting edge portion 16 cannot be mounted in an incorrect position.

Claim 1 previously recited, inter alia, that the male and female members are configured to define "only a single position of intercoupling." That claim has been rejected as anticipated by Sjoos which describes male and female members 12, 16 in the form of serrations, i.e., parallel grooves and ridges. It will be appreciated that such grooves and ridges define two positions of intercoupling that are angularly offset by 180°. One such position of adjustment is shown in Fig. 4, but it would be possible to reorient the cutting head in a different and improper position angularly offset by 180 degrees from the Fig. 4 position (see Sjoos, column 6, lines 22-26), and secure it to the holder. That is not possible in the presently claimed invention.

Accordingly, it is submitted that the rejection based upon 35 U.S.C. § 102 should be withdrawn.

As regards independent claim 8, that claim has been amended to recite that the irregular profile of the head surface 17 presents a first configuration adapted to be received in a corresponding irregular configuration of the holder surface, and that the configurations presented by the head surface in all other angular positions thereof about the axis are different from the first configuration. Thus, the head surface defines only a single position of intercoupling. That feature and its advantages have been explained above. In the event that the position of the head

surface 17 shown in Fig. 2 is considered the "first position," then it will be appreciated that if the surface 17 were rotated by 1 degree about the center axis, the surface would present a different configuration that could not fit into the holder surface. That is true for all other positions of the surface 17.

Sjöö discloses a cutter head having an axially irregular surface, but it is configured to define two possible positions of intercoupling. Thus, it is possible for the cutter head of Sjöo to be incorrectly mounted in the holder, but such a possibility is prohibited by the structure recited in claim 8. Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 8 distinguishes patentably over Sjöo.

Claim 9 is similar to claim 8, except that it relates to the holder. It is submitted that claim 9 is allowable for the same reasons as claim 8.

The specification has been amended to provide antecedent basis for language now used in the claims. It will be appreciated that the new language merely describes geometrical characteristics of the holder and cutting head that are readily apparent from the showing and description of those parts as originally disclosed.

Claim 5 has been amended to recite a turning tool (see paragraph 0030 of the description for support).

In light of the foregoing, it is submitted that the present application is in
condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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AMENDMENT TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 2 by inserting reference numeral 17a. This sheet replaces the original sheet inclusive of Figs. 1-2.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet (Figs.1-2)